

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am thankful to Dr. R.M. Pai, Ex-Head, Department of Botany, Dr. B.A., Marathwada University, Aurangabad, for encouragement and interest in the work. I am grateful to Dr. Karthikeyan, Western Circle, BSI, Pune,

for necessary information and to Mr. B.M. Patil Principal, Ghogrey Science College, for facilities.

June 15, 1996

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36. NOTES ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *WAHLENBERGIA HOOKERI* AND *ANISOCHILUS VERTICILLATUS* IN TAMIL NADU

During botanical exploration in Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary, Nilgiris, the authors came across the plant species which were not collected by earlier workers. Henry *et al.* (1987) did not include these species in the FLORA OF TAMIL NADU, India. ser. I: Analysis. Hence these species are dealt with here. These species are poorly represented in MH. To facilitate identification of these species a brief description is given.

Wahlenbergia hookeri (C.B. Clarke) Tuyn in Fl. Males. ser. 1.6:116. 1960. *Cephalostigma hookeri* C.B. Clarke in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 3: 429. 1881; Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras 738. 1921 (Repr. ed. 519. 1957) (Campanulaceae).

Slender erect herbs, 10-20 cm high, hispid. Leaves 2-3.5 x 0.5-1 cm, elliptic-oblong, lanceolate; crenate-serrate along margin, acute-obtuse at apex, sparsely hairy. Panicles terminal, 10-15 cm long; pedicels filiform, 0.5-2 cm long; bracts tooth-like. Calyx tube campanulate, lobes 5, glabrous, persistent. Corolla lobes 5, pale blue, oblanceolate. Stamens 5, filaments dilated at base. Capsules 2-valved, loculicidal, glabrous. Seeds many, ellipsoid, trigonous, brown.

Fl. & Fr.: September-December; in moist shady places.

Specimen examined: Jenubaribetta, Doddagatti. *D. Stephen* 97991, 13.xii.1991.

Note: This is one of the rare plants. Though Gamble (*l.c.*) reported this species from Western Ghats there is no specimen in MH. Henry *et al.* (1987) does not include this species in the FLORA OF TAMIL NADU, India. ser. I: Analysis. Hence this species is an addition to the FLORA OF TAMIL NADU.

Anisochilus verticillatus Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 4: 629. 1889; Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras 1128. 1924 (Repr. ed. 788. 1957) (Labiatae).

Herbs or subshrubs, 0.5-1 m high; root stock woody; stems grooved, pubescent. Leaves 1.5-4.5 x 0.2-2 cm, whorled, sessile, elliptic-oblong, oblanceolate, entire or shallowly crenate along the margin, acute at apex, silky hairy; nerves 4-5 pairs. Spikes terminal, cylindrical, 7-12 cm long; bracts lanceolate. Calyx 2-lipped; upper lip 3-toothed, lower truncate, villous. Corolla white, 2-lipped, lower lip decurved, glandular. Stamens 4, didynamous. Styles bifid. Nutlets 4, ovoid.

Fl. & Fr.: August-October in open grasslands.

Specimen examined: Boleguda. *D. Stephen* 97927, 15.x.1991.

Note: Gamble (*l.c.*) reported its occurrence based on Beddome's collection from Hyderabad

and Meebold's collection from Mysore. But there is no specimen from Tamil Nadu in MH. Hence the present collection is the first report from the state.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Dr. D. Stephen is grateful to the Director, Botanical Survey of India for providing a fellowship under the Flora of India Scheme

and to the Joint Director, Botanical Survey of India, Southern Circle, Coimbatore for all facilities.

June 15, 1996

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37. A NOTE ON THE IDENTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF *HYDROLEA ZEYLANICA* (L.) VAHL VAR. *ERECTA* HAINES (HYDROPHYLLACEAE)

(With one text-figure)

The family Hydrophyllaceae is represented by 22 genera and about 275 subcosmopolitan species, with greater concentration in dry Western and Northern America (Mabberley, 1987). Of these, 20 species of the genus *Hydrolea* L. are known to occur in the world especially in southeast Asia, Africa and tropical America. In India, a single species, namely *Hydrolea zeylanica*, is found throughout the country, mostly in moist situations around ponds, tanks, ditches, irrigation canals, in rice fields and other wetlands.

Haines (1922) described an infraspecific taxon under *Hydrolea zeylanica* based on his collections from Purneah, Bihar and distinguished his new variety *H. zeylanica* (L.) Vahl var. *erecta* Haines from the type (var. *diffusa* sensu Haines) by its erect habit, longer leaves and non-glandular inflorescence. He remarked that this erect form is a very pretty plant when in full bloom. I collected a large number of specimens belonging to both the varieties from different parts of Orissa, studied their morphological characters and is of the opinion

that *H. zeylanica* (L.) Vahl var. *erecta* Haines is undoubtedly a distinct taxonomic entity. It can be distinguished from var. *zeylanica* as per the following consistent key characters:

Erect herbs, leaves narrowly lanceolate, acuminate, glaucous beneath, cauline leaves reflexed. Inflorescence and calyx pubescent, never glandular

var. *erecta*
Diffuse or procumbent herbs, rooting at nodes, leaves broadly lanceolate to elliptic-lanceolate, acute, not glaucous beneath. Inflorescence and calyx densely glandular-pubescent

var. *zeylanica*.
Nomenclature, brief description, phenology, ecology and distribution in respect of *H. zeylanica* var. *erecta* is presented below. The occurrence of the taxon in Orissa is a new distributional record.

Hydrolea zeylanica (Linn.) Vahl var. *erecta* Haines Bot. Bihar & Orissa 2:571.1922 (Fig.1)

Erect herbs, 20-60 cm high, glabrous below. Inflorescence cymose, terminating the